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AYSGARTH,
YORKSHIRE.

TO THE AYSGARTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to submit my Report on the Sanitary Condition of the District for the year 1925.

Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in Acres), 81,033.

Population : Census, 1921 ... 4301.
Estimated ... 4250.

The area is at a high altitude and consists almost entirely of Grass and Moorland.

The number of inhabited houses is 1091 and there is the same number of families or separate occupiers.

Rateable value is £55,993 and the sum represented by a penny rate is £233.

There is very little poverty in the district, or unemployment.

The chief occupations are dairy and sheep farming, though there is some quarrying and a large number of men are now employed on the roads.

All occupations are healthy.

Vital Statistics.

		Total	M.	F.	
Births	Legitimate ...	59	22	37	Birth Rate, 15·19.
	Illegitimate ...	6	2	4	
Deaths		58	27	31	... Death Rate, 13·56.

There is no material change in either Birth Rate or Death Rate in the last five years.

Number of Women dying in or in consequence of Child-birth { from Sepsis ... Nil. / from other causes Nil.

Deaths of infants under one year of age, per 1000 births :—

Legitimate, 30·77. Illegitimate, Nil. Total Infant Mortality, 30·77.

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ... Nil.
,, Whooping Cough (all ages) ... Nil.
,, Diarrhœa (under two years of age) Nil.

There is no unusual or excessive mortality from any cause which requires comment.

The amount of Poor Law Relief for the year 1925 was £276 9s. 10d.

The Voluntary Hospitals are largely used, especially Leeds and Bradford, and to a lesser extent Darlington.

During the period 1920 to 1925 there were no outstanding causes of sickness or invalidity.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Hospitals provided or subsidized by the Local Authority or the County Council :—

(1) Tuberculosis cases can be admitted into the County Council beds at the Sanatorium at Aysgarth ; Children to County Council Sanatorium, Morris Grange.

(2) There is no provision for hospital treatment for maternity cases or for children.

(3) For fever cases there is a small Isolation Hospital at Bainbridge, accommodating six children or three adults.

(4) Arrangements have been made for admission of Smallpox cases to the Darlington Fever Hospital.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES :

(*a*) For infectious cases a cab kept for the purpose is utilized.

(*b*) For non-infectious and accident cases an ambulance can be procured by application to the Chief Constable of the Riding at Northallerton.

There are no Clinics or Treatment Centres. Venereal Cases, if any, are sent to Leeds.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

There is a part time Medical Officer of Health and a Sanitary Inspector, who is an Associate of the Royal Sanitary Institute. He combines the Office of Sanitary Inspector with that of Road Surveyor.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

Both general and infectious nursing is carried out by private arrangement, but in necessitous cases help is given by nursing associations in various centres, independent of the Sanitary Authority, nurses being provided from the Nurses' Home, Northallerton. Nursing facilities are not provided by the County Council or the Sanitary Authority. There are no district nurses.

MIDWIVES.

All confinements are attended by medical practitioners. No midwives in the district have hitherto worked independently.

CHEMICAL WORK.

There are no special arrangements made in respect of this. Water Analysis is carried out by the County Analyst.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

There are no Local Acts, Special Local Orders, General Adoptive Acts, or Bye-laws relating to the public health, in force in the area.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.

There are seventeen water supplies in the area, all constant. The supply in all parishes is of good quality at all times, with the exception of Askrigg, which in a drought is intermittent. A new Storage Tank, however, is being installed at an early date. In the majority of cases in all parishes the houses are supplied direct from the main, stand pipes having been done away with. Six fresh houses have been connected with the water supplies during the year 1925.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

There is pollution of streams at Bainbridge, Askrigg and West Burton, which is under consideration.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The town of Hawes and the villages of Carperby, Burtersett, Gayle, Sedbusk, Countersett and Worton have efficient sewerage plants. Houses in other villages with water closets have their own disposal systems.

The alteration of one of the Filter Beds at Hawes Sewerage Works has been completed and the effluent from the works thereby considerably improved. Some alteration at the Bainbridge works is contemplated during the coming year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The usual arrangement is the earth closet, of which there is a sufficient number. Conversion to the water carriage system is not proceeding on any definite policy.

SCAVENGING.

The scavenging of the district is carried out by owners and tenants and material is carted on to the land and in some cases to tips provided by the Council.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The Sanitary Inspector has made 52 inspections during the year under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910. He has served 14 informal notices with respect to minor nuisances, which have been complied with.

Two statutory notices have been served under the Public Health Act. One has been complied with and the other is in the hands of the contractor.

SCHOOLS.

The Public Elementary Schools are well-ventilated and well-lighted and have an adequate water supply. Notices of infectious disease are promptly sent by the head teachers when such occur.

Housing.

I. General Housing Conditions in the Area.

There is no shortage of houses and therefore there is no necessity for a housing scheme. Some few of the houses are only occupied during the summer months.

The population is apparently stationary in the five years under review.

II. Overcrowding.

There is no overcrowding.

III. Fitness of Houses.

On the whole the general standard of housing is good, but some of the older houses are damp.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(*a*) Total - - - - - - - - 4

(*b*) As part of a municipal housing scheme - - - - Nil

1. Unfit Dwelling-houses.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts - - - - - 52

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 - - - - Nil

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation - - - - Nil

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 1

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers - - - - 42

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1919.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs - - - - - - - Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :—

(*a*) by owners- - - - - - - Nil

(*b*) by Local Authority in default of owners - - - - Nil

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close - Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied - - - - - - 2

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—

(*a*) by owners - - - - - - - 1

(*b*) by Local Authority in default of Owners - - - - Nil

C.—Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders - - - - - - - Nil

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made Nil

(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-house having been rendered fit - - - Nil

(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made - - - - - - - Nil

(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders - Nil

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(*a*) MILK SUPPLY.

The Sanitary Inspector has made a complete inspection of all buildings used by milk purveyors and these have been found fairly satisfactory as regards cleanliness and ventilation.

The cowsheds are whitewashed twice a year, and the cows are milked in the open from May to October.

The milk is of good quality and reasonable care is exercised to prevent contamination.

(1) No action has been needed as to tuberculous milk and tuberculous cattle during the past year.

(2) There have been no complaints with regard to milk from the various municipalities to which milk is sent from this area.

(*b*) MEAT SUPPLY.

There are no Public Slaughter Houses in the area.

Private Slaughter Houses :—

	In 1920.	In Jan., 1925.	In Dec., 1925.
Registered ...	6 ...	6 ...	6
Licensed ...	2 ...	2 ...	2
Total	8	8	8

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

There has been very little notifiable infectious disease during the period since 1920. Scarlet Fever heads the list with a total of 42. There have been no return cases. There have been 10 cases of Diphtheria notified and two cases only of Enteric Fever.

LABORATORY WORK.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations are made at the expense of the Practitioners of the district, who recover from the patients when possible, with the exception that the County Council are now prepared to undertake examination for Tubercle Bacilli.

No provision is made by the Sanitary Authority of Diphtheria Anti-toxin. It would be greatly in the interest of Public Health if the cost of this latter as well as of the examination of swabs for Diphtheria were born by the District Council.

Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1925.

Disease.	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria	2 ...	Nil. ...	Nil.
Scarlet Fever	3 ...	1 ...	Nil.
Enteric Fever	Nil. ...	Nil. ...	Nil.
Puerperal Fever ...	Nil. ...	Nil. ...	Nil.
Pneumonia ...	Nil. ...	Nil. ...	5
Encephelitis Lethargica ...	Nil. ...	Nil. ...	Nil.
Erysipelas ...	Nil. ...	Nil. ...	Nil.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—Nil.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases. Pulmonary. M.	New Cases. Pulmonary. F.	New Cases. Non-Pulmonary. M.	New Cases. Non-Pulmonary. F.	Deaths. Pulmonary. M.	Deaths. Pulmonary. F.	Deaths. Non-Pulmonary. M.	Deaths. Non-Pulmonary. F.
0								
1								
5								
10								
15								
20		2						
25								
35								
45					1			
55								
65 and upwards								
Totals		2			1			

Notification of tuberculosis in the district appears to be efficient. The case in which death occurred had been previously notified.

VACCINATION.

In 1921 there were 41 Vaccinations and Re-vaccinations performed; in 1922, 59; 1923, 54; 1924, 42; 1925, 50.

There are no local arrangements made for treatment of Venereal Disease and in respect of Maternity and Child Welfare.

I beg to remain,
Your obedient servant,
DEAN DUNBAR.

T. HISCOCK, PRINTER, HAWES.